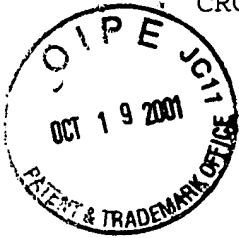


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

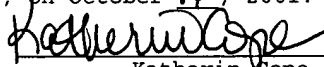
In re Application of: Robert Alan Reynolds et al.
Application No.: 09/709,807
Filing Date: 10 Nov 2000
Earliest Priority Date: 12 Nov 1999
Group Art Unit: 2181
Examiner: Unknown
Title: ENCAPSULATION PROTOCOL FOR
LINKING STORAGE AREA NETWORKS
OVER A PACKET-BASED NETWORK

RECEIVED
OCT 24 2001
Technology Center 2100

Honorable Asst. Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Certification Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence
is being deposited with the United States
Postal Service as first class mail in an
envelope addressed to: Assistant
Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C.
20231, on October 16, 2001.


Katherin Cope

Dear Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the current Application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add the following claims.

44. A method for encapsulating a first protocol for
data transmission between two or more nodes across a network,
comprising, at each node:

10/25/2001 AUCHE271 00000007 03703207

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